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Calendar

Monday, Aug. 11

PARTICLE ASTROPHYSICS SEMINARS WILL RESUME IN THE FALL

3:30 p.m.

DIRECTOR'S COFFEE BREAK - 2nd Flr X-Over

4 p.m.

All Experimenters' Meeting - Curia II

Tuesday, Aug. 12

3:30 p.m.

DIRECTOR'S COFFEE BREAK - 2nd Flr X-Over
THERE WILL BE NO ACCELERATOR PHYSICS AND TECHNOLOGY SEMINAR TODAY

[Click here](#) for NALCAL, a weekly calendar with links to additional information.

Weather



Sunny
80°/64°

[Extended Forecast](#)
[Weather at Fermilab](#)

Current Security Status

[Secon Level 3](#)

Wilson Hall Cafe

Feature

Thomas "TJ" Baird retires



Thomas "TJ" Baird

Mention "TJ the hound-dog" at the property office and you're guaranteed to get a smile.

"They call me the hound-dog because I hounded everyone to keep track of their property!" said Thomas Baird.

Baird, who was born and raised in the area, retired in June after 37 years. He started at Fermilab in 1971 as a truck driver delivering gas cylinders around the Tevatron ring and then moved in 1987 to work as a material specialist.

Baird inventoried items on Fermilab's 6,800-acre site to help minimize waste and account for taxpayer-paid property. The job required him to spend his days out of the office, seeking out items lost in moves or forgotten over time.

"Not many people can claim to have been in every building or walked the length of every tunnel and enclosure at Fermilab. He was one of the few," said the Property Office's Todd Wagner. "He was quite a character."

Baird kept track of everything from giant, immobile magnets and vacuum tubes to handheld calculators.

"When he showed up, if you had anything without a property tag, you had better watch out. That man was relentless," said the Computing Division's Keith Coiley, a colleague for 35 years.

"We'd take a notepad and climb down into those dusty manholes you see along the beamline on the A-1 Road," Baird said. "Then we'd squeeze in these little equipment-filled rooms and search for a little gold tag with a property number."

Safety Tip of the Week

Safety unleashed



[Fermilab provides the dog training area, near Batavia and Eola roads, free to the public.](#)

Editor's Note: This column was written by FESS's Rod Walton. Tim Miller will resume writing the column for Aug. 25.

In response to requests from area dog trainers, Fermilab provides a free, public area near Eola and Batavia roads for dog owners to train working and hunting dogs. Trainers appreciate this, because other nearby training areas require a permit and a fee.

Although Fermilab offers this amenity, trainers are still responsible for their safety and that of their dogs. A new flier outlining the area's rules and potential dangers will soon be made available at the training area and with the gate guards.

Owners using the area must have control of their dogs. Dogs must remain on a leash, wear a recall collar or be well-trained enough to return quickly when called.

Controlling dogs shows respect to others and can help to avoid potential dangers. Although the area is safe, it is also home to a variety of predators and insects.

Coyotes have established territories in the area. They are wary animals and if not challenged, do not present a danger.

Monday, Aug. 11

- French quarter gumbo
- French dip w/horseradish cream sauce
- Smart cuisine: Santa Fe pork stew
- Smart cuisine: Honey mustard chicken
- *Spicy hot Greek wrap
- Assorted sliced pizza
- Sweet n' sour chicken w/egg roll

[Wilson Hall Cafe Menu](#)
Chez Leon**Wednesday, Aug. 13
Lunch**

- Stuffed summer vegetables
- Peach & strawberry shortcakes

**Thursday, Aug. 14
Dinner**

- Closed

[Chez Leon Menu](#)

Call x4598 to make your reservation.

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www.fnal.gov/today/

Send comments and suggestions to:

today@fnal.gov

To find those elusive property tags, Baird climbed ladders, crawled on his hands and knees and scooted on his back to see the undersides of big machines.

"I loved going out and hunting for stuff," Baird said. "I told my boss that if I get bored, maybe I'll have to come back part-time."

-- *Jennifer L. Johnson*

Photo of the Day**Fermilab Today celebrates publication's fifth birthday**

Fermilab Today editor Rhianna Wisniewski and *Fermilab Today's* first editor, Elizabeth Clements, blow out candles Aug. 1 in honor of the fifth year of the publication.

In the News**Large Hadron Collider turns on Sept. 10, tests beam on weekend**

From *Popular Mechanics*, Aug. 7, 2008

The only data the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) has produced thus far is a powerful (but debunked) urban myth—that the particle accelerator buried under the Swiss-French border will generate apocalyptic black holes.

But today, the European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN) has announced that the LHC will go online on September 10. On that day, researchers will activate particle beams within the 17-mile-long ring, and the world's most powerful—and most talked about—particle accelerator will begin collecting experimental data. The LHC's research potential is staggering, with physicists hoping to use the accelerator's extremely high-energy

However, if a dog behaves in a way that a coyote interprets as a challenge, the coyote may respond aggressively. In spring, when adults have pups, they are even less tolerant of perceived threats.

Trainers themselves may come into contact with ticks, bees, mosquitoes, poison ivy and thorns - all of which are annoying, but they can avoid. The upcoming flyer will offer more detail on these hazards and suggestions for avoiding them.

Accelerator Update**August 6-8**

- Three stores provided ~32 hours and 37 minutes of luminosity
- Booster kicker transformer replaced
- MI Center Anode power supply repaired
- TeV aborted - no cause found
- A0 CAMAC crate replaced - bad power supply
- Pbar Debuncher BPM system upgraded

[Read the Current Accelerator Update](#)
[Read the Early Bird Report](#)
[View the Tevatron Luminosity Charts](#)
Announcements**Have a safe day!****U.S. visa application changes**

Applicants might experience longer-than-usual waits at U.S. Consulates during their visa application process. The Visa Office has reported that applicants have experienced waits for visas in excess of five weeks. While five weeks is unusual, it is a trend toward longer visa processing caused, in part, by security clearances.

Applicants for U.S. visas should make sure that they provide all the paperwork required for their visas. Check the U.S. Consulate's Web site prior to applying to find out what paperwork is required. Do not rely on past experience - processes change. Anyone whose visa application has been pending for four weeks should notify the Visa Office. Similarly, anyone contemplating applying for a U.S. visa abroad should contact the Visa Office prior to making travel plans. You also should advise the Travel Office of your visa application plans during the travel authorization process.

Mileage reimbursement rate increases

proton collisions to generate a range of theoretical particles. Some of those particles could help us to understand the nature of mass, including the as-yet-undetectable dark matter that accounts for so much of the universe's mass. Other particles might prove the existence of extra dimensions, or lead to entirely new theories or physical laws (this musical explanation gives a good introduction to the LHC).

Until its debut in September, and possibly for the entire lifespan of the LHC, rumors of its doomsday potential are likely to persist, fueled by reports of its unprecedented power and potential. Physicists have pointed out that the microscopic black holes the collider could generate would disappear almost instantly, without wreaking any havoc on the accelerator or the rest of world. But for anyone convinced that the LHC's impending activation is a countdown to doomsday, the hand-wringing should commence this weekend, when the accelerator will host its first actual particle beam. As part of a scheduled injection test, the LHC will be closed off this Friday, and researchers at CERN will fire protons through one of the eight sectors that make up the sprawling concrete-lined collider tunnel.

The purpose of this test? "It's, 'Let's see what happens,' " says Judy Jackson, head of the Office of Communications at Fermilab. "It's a very complex machine. This is a step towards getting ready."

[Read more](#)

The Internal Revenue Service and the General Services Administration have increased the 2008 standard mileage reimbursement rates to 58.5 cents per mile, effective Aug. 1, 2008.

Fermilab hosts Sigma Pi Sigma Congress

The 2008 Quadrennial Congress of Sigma Pi Sigma will take place at Fermilab Nov. 6-8. Physics students, alumni and faculty will gather at the Sigma Pi Sigma Congress for a weekend of physics, debates and tours. [More information.](#)

URA Visiting Scholars Program applications due Sept. 1

The application deadline for the next round of scholarships for the Universities Research Association's Visiting Scholars Program is Sept. 1. The program will support visits by researchers from URA member institutions to work at Fermilab for periods of up to one year. [More information.](#)

August 21 deadline for The University of Chicago Tuition Remission Program

The deadline to apply for the tuition remission program at The University of Chicago for the Fall 2008 quarter is Aug. 21. For more information and enrollment forms, contact Nicole Gee at x3697 or visit the [Web site.](#)

[Additional Activities](#)